

REMARKS

The specification is amended above to insert a reference to related cases.

The claims are amended to better conform to accepted US Patent Prosecution practice.

Claims 1, 9, 13, 17 – 20, 24, 26-28 and 30 have been amended to remove parenthetical punctuations.

Claims 45 – 51 have been canceled without prejudice to the filing of future continuing applications.

Early allowance of the claims is requested. Should the Examiner believe that a conference with applicants' attorney would advance prosecution of this application, he is respectfully invited to call applicants' attorney.

Dated: 3/4/00

(847)383-3372
(847)383-3391

Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America, Inc.
Intellectual Property Department
475 Half Day Road
Lincolnshire, IL 60069 USA

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Chao, Ph.D., Reg. No. 37,293
Elaine M. Ramesh, Ph.D., Reg. No. 43032
Attorney for Applicants
Customer No. 23115